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P.O. Box 1450

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Dorothy DeFrancesco

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. : 10/058,438

Applicants : Manobu KANNO et al.

Filed : January 28, 2002

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR LEACHING ZINC
CONCENTRATES

Art Unit : 1742

Examiner : Melvyn J. Andrews

Docket No. : 02033/HG

Customer No.: 01933

Confirmation No.: 4300

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

AND

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)

S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:

- (1) A copy of a Communication and Search Report issued in the counterpart European application;
- (2) Form PTO/SB/08A. It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and and made of record; and
- (3) Copies of the publications cited in said Form PTO/SB/08A.

Each of the cited publications is considered relevant or material to the patentability of the present invention in view of the citation thereof in said Search Report.

Said Search Report is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance.

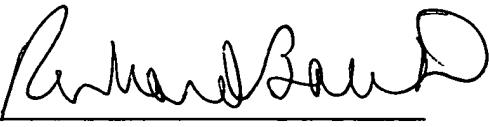
USP 4,676,828 to Andre, which was cited in the enclosed European Search Report, was previously cited in applicants' INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT dated January 28, 2002.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of September 8, 2003.

It is respectfully requested that the attached publications be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,



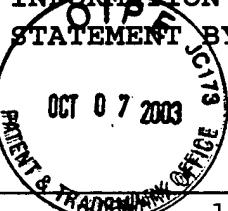
RICHARD S. BARTH
REG. NO. 28,180

FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN & CHICK, P.C.
767 THIRD AVENUE - 25TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017-2023
Tel. Nos. (212) 319-4900
 (212) 319-4551/Ext. 219
Fax No. (212) 319-5101
E-Mail Address: BARTH@FHGC-LAW.COM
RSB/ddf
Encs.: European Search Report; Form PTO/SB/08A and publications cited therein

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<p>Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  </p>		Application Number		10/058,438	
		Filing Date		January 28, 2002	
		First Named Inventor		Manobu KANNO	
		Group Art Unit		1742	
		Examiner Name		M.J. Andrews	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	02033/HG

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
		3,867,268 2,435,340		Kawulka et al. Christensen	02-18-1975 02-03-1948	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		EPO	0 451 456	A1	Fugelberg et al.	10-16-1991		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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* EXAMINER: Initial if document considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: OCTOBER 7, 2003